IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (New): A pneumatic tire comprising an innerliner which comprises a layer of a modified ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (C) obtained by reacting 1-50 parts by weight of a monofunctional epoxy compound (B) with 100 parts by weight of an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (A) having an ethylene content of 25-50 mol%.

Claim 20 (New): The pneumatic tire according to claim 19, wherein the ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (A) has a degree of saponification of 90 % or more.

Claim 21 (New): The pneumatic tire according to claim 19, wherein the layer of the modified ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (C) has an oxygen transmission rate at 20°C and at 65 % RH of 3.0×10^{-12} $cm^3 \cdot cm/cm^2 \cdot sec \cdot cmHg$ or less.

Claim 22 (New): The pneumatic tire according to claim 19, wherein the modified ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (C) is crosslinked.

Claim 23 (New): The pneumatic tire according to claim 19, wherein the thickness of the layer of the modified ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (C) is 50 μm or less.

Claim 24 (New): A pneumatic tire comprising an innerliner which comprises a layer of a modified ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (C) obtained by reacting 1-50 parts by weight of a monofunctional epoxy compound (B) with 100 parts by weight of an ethylene-

vinyl alcohol copolymer (A) having an ethylene content of 25-50 mol%, and further comprises an auxiliary layer (D) of an elastomer adjacent to the layer of the modified ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (C).

Claim 25 (New): The pneumatic tire according to claim 24, wherein the auxiliary layer (D) has an oxygen transmission rate at 20°C and at 65 % RH of 3.0×10^{-9} $cm^3 \cdot cm/cm^2 \cdot sec \cdot cmHg$ or less.

Claim 26 (New): The pneumatic tire according to claim 24, wherein a butyl rubber or a halogenated butyl rubber is used in the auxiliary layer (D).

Claim 27 (New): The pneumatic tire according to claim 24, wherein a diene-based elastomer is used in the auxiliary layer (D).

Claim 28 (New): The pneumatic tire according to claim 24, wherein the auxiliary layer (D) has a thickness of 50-1500 μm in total.

Claim 29 (New): A pneumatic tire comprising an innerliner which comprises a layer of a modified ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (C) obtained by reacting 1-50 parts by weight of a monofunctional epoxy compound (B) with 100 parts by weight of an ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (A) having an ethylene content of 25-50 mol%, and further comprises an auxiliary layer (D) of an elastomer adjacent to the layer of the modified ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer (C), wherein the layer of the modified ethylene-vinyl

alcohol copolymer (C) is laminated with the auxiliary layer (D) through at least one adhesive layer.

Claim 30 (New): The pneumatic tire according to claim 29, wherein the auxiliary layer (D) is designed so that in a region from the end of each belt to a bead portion, a portion of the auxiliary layer (D) corresponding to a width of at least 30 mm in the radius direction is thicker by at least 0.2 mm than a portion of the auxiliary layer (D) corresponding to a portion of the auxiliary layer (D) under the belt.